A BREVIATE *of the Eſtabliſhment of the* Friendly Society *for Securing Houſes from Loſs by Fire, by Mutual Contribution agreed by the Truſtees Inrolled in* Chancery, *and to be ſeen at Large at the Office.*

Inſurance

I. IMprimis, That there ſhall be an Office kept, where any Perſon concerned, may Search and take Notes *gratis*.

II. That Policies ſhall be delivered, wherein one Houſe only to be contained, in which Policy the Truſtees are impowered to Pay the Sums due, in caſe they be not otherwiſe Paid, within Sixty days after the Houſes are Burnt; every Perſon receiving a Policy, doth thereby become a Member of the Society.

III. That every Member of the Society ſhall Pay yearly beforehand at the Office, the Sum of 1 *s.* 4 *d.* for every 100 *l.* Secured on Brick-houſes, and 2 *s.* 8 *d.* for every 100 *l.* Secured on Timber-houſes, by way of *Præmium*. Houſes having Party-walls entire of Brick or Stone, to be eſteemed Brick-houſes, and Houſes not having Party-walls of Brick or Stone, to be eſteemed Timber-houſes.

IV. That every Member of the Society ſhall Contribute towards the making good ſuch Loſſes as ſhall happen to any of the Houſes of the Members of the ſaid Society; Provided, That no Perſon be Charged for any one Loſs above Thirty Shillings for each 100 *l.* by him Secured on Brick-houſes, and double ſo much on Timber-houſes.

V. That any Member of the Society may within 8 days after any Rate is declared, Examine the Regiſters, and except againſt the ſaid Rate; which upon juſt Cauſe or Error in Caſting, ſhall be altered.

VI. That every Member upon the receiving of his Policy, ſhall depoſit as a Pledge or Caution for the Performance of his Covenants, the Sum of 6 *s.* 8 *d.* for every 100 *l.* Secured on Brick-houſes, and 13 *s.* 4 *d.* for every 100 *l.* Secured on Timber-houſes; for which Receipts ſhall be given, and Covenants, to repay the ſame (or ſo much thereof as ſhall not be Forfeited) at the end of the term in his Policy expreſſed.

VII, & VIII. If any Member Omit or Neglect to Pay his Annual Payment at the Office within 40 days after it is Due, he ſhall forfeit 8 *d.* over and above the ſaid 1 *s.* 4 *d.* for every 100 *l.* Secured on Brick-houſes, and 1 *s.* 4 *d.* for every 100 *l.* Secured on Timber-houſes to be deducted out of the depoſited Money.

IX. If any Member neglect to Pay his Share towards any Loſs for 25 days after Publication of the Rate, he ſhall forfeit one 4th part of the Money ſo Due, over and above his ſaid Share to be Deducted out of the depoſited Money; and if he ſhall again make Default, for the ſpace of Three Months after Demand made in Writing (to be left at his Dwelling, or laſt Secured Houſe) he ſhall from thenceforth forfeit the Benefit of his Policy; his Covenant nevertheleſs to ſtand good againſt him for ſo much as ſhall be then Due.

X. The Acts and Covenants of the Deputies ſhall Charge and Bind the Undertakers.

XI. That every Member upon any Loſs, ſhall forthwith certifie his ſaid Loſs to the Office, and ſome of the Office ſhall certifie the ſame to the Truſtees; who ſhall forthwith appoint ſome Skilful and Able Builder or Workman to View and Eſtimate the ſaid Loſs, and make Report, and ſhall ſet the Rate of Contribution accordingly; But if the Truſtees ſhall omit to do ſo, the Undertakers with the conſent of Three or more of the Principal Members, to do it.

XII. That ſuch Workman as ſhall be imploy'd to Eſtimate the Damage of any Houſe only Damnified by Fire, ſhall be obliged to Repair the ſaid Damages at the Rate he ſhall value the ſame; in caſe the Party Damnified ſhall not be willing to take the Money at which the ſaid Damage is valued, or the Undertakers ſhall not be willing to do it themſelves.

XIII. The Form of the Workman's Certificate of his View and Eſtimate of the Damages, and Examination of the Regiſters, and of the declaring of the Rate, and Publiſhing it by affixing it to the Gates of the City, and other publick Places, whereby it will appear that the Rate is certain, and not Arbitrary.

XIV. That the Truſtees have Power to raiſe Money by the Rents, Sale, or Mortgage of the Eſtates ſettled upon them by the Undertakers for the Payment of all Sums Due to any Member by reaſon of any Loſs by Fire within Fifty days after any Rate of Contribution ſhall be declared, if the ſame ſhall not be otherwiſe Paid, according to the true intent and meaning of the Eſtabliſhment.

XV. No Queſtion to be admitted about the Deſcription, Quality, or Value of any Houſe that ſhall be Burnt; but the Money in the Policy expreſſed to be Paid, after the Rate declared as aforeſaid.

XVI. Whenever the Roof and Floors of a Houſe from the firſt Floor upwards, ſhall be Burnt or fall in, that Houſe to be deemed a Demoliſhed Houſe, and the whole Sum Secured thereon to be Paid.

XVII. To prevent any Fraud in getting any Policies by indirect means after a Houſe is Burnt, no Houſe is to be Eſteemed a Secured Houſe till the Mark hath been actually affixed thereon.

XVIII. Watermen, and other Labourers to be Imploy'd at the Charge of the Undertakers to aſſiſt at the quenching of Fires.

XIX. If there ſhall be ſo much Money Inſured upon Houſes as the Truſtees ſhall not think the Security already given to be ſufficient, the Undertakers to give ſuch further Security as the Truſtees ſhall reaſonably require.

XX. If any one Fire ſhall be ſo great as to require 30 *s.* for each 100 *l.* Secured on Brick-houſes, and double for Timber-houſes, to make good the ſaid Loſs; it ſhall be Lawful for any Member after the Payment of his ſaid Share, to Surrender his Policy, and receive back his depoſited Money; and from thenceforth be Diſcharged from the Society, if he ſo pleaſe.

Early English Books Online, Copyright © 2019 ProQuest LLC
Images reproduced by courtesy of Bodleian Library